



TFW

PATENT

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 2887.0246

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TAKAHIRO IKEDA

Application No.: 10/644,001

Filed: August 20, 2003

For: EXTRACTING METHOD OF
PATTERN CONTOUR, IMAGE
PROCESSING METHOD,
SEARCHING METHOD OF
PATTERN EDGE, SCANNING
METHOD OF PROBE,
MANUFACTURING METHOD OF
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE,
PATTERN INSPECTION
APPARATUS, AND PROGRAM

Group Art Unit: 2621

Examiner: Unknown

Confirmation No.: 4850

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents.

1. Japanese Publication No. 2001-148016 is discussed on page 2 of the present application.
2. Japanese Publication No. 2001-91231 is discussed on page 2 of the present application.
3. Japanese Publication No. 7-27548 is discussed on page 2 of the present application.

In addition, English-language abstracts of the Japanese publications are submitted herewith.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

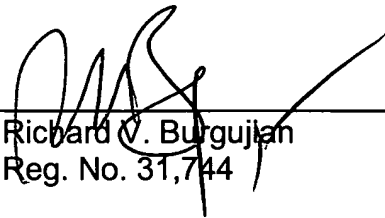
Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

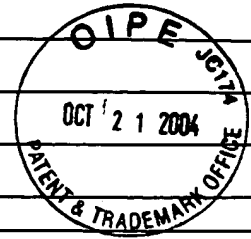
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: 10/21/04

By: 
Richard V. Burgujian
Reg. No. 31,744

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	2887.0246	Appln. No.	10/644,001
Applicant	Ikeda		
Filing Date	August 20, 2003	Group:	2621



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
2001-148016	5/29/01	Japan			Abstract
2001-91231	4/6/01	Japan			Abstract
7-27548	1/27/95	Japan			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Preparata et al., "Computational Geometry An Introduction," Springer-Verlag (1985), pp. 179-218
Stauffer, "Introduction to Percolation Theory," Taylor & Francis (1985)

Examiner	Date Considered
*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce